

STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT

Scott Press Release



P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • (517) 373-7748

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Contact: Senator Martha G. Scott
(517) 373-7748

GOVERNOR SIGNS NEZ PACKAGE *Bills Aimed at Rejuvenating Urban Neighborhoods*

LANSING—Today, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm signed into law a package of bills, including Senate Bill 529 sponsored by Sen. Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) that will encourage the revitalization of urban neighborhoods, making it easier for families to purchase and maintain homes in these communities.

“Detroit residents face unfair tax costs across the board,” said Sen. Scott. “This legislation will help to lessen that burden.”

Senate Democrats sponsored a two-bill package that will cap property taxes for anyone who purchased a home in certain neighborhoods beginning in 1998.

Currently, Neighborhood Enterprise Zones (NEZs) are only available for newly constructed or rehabilitated facilities. This package of bills expands NEZs to include housing purchased after 1997.

“This is all about giving cities another tool to encourage people to live in their communities, and making Michigan’s cities more viable,” Scott said. “This package offers tax fairness to families that want to invest in a home in an urban area.”

Under the package of bills introduced, the person buying a home could receive an NEZ certificate for a “homestead facility.” The certificate lasts 6 to 15 years and will drastically cut the owner’s tax bill.

“This is a win-win for families and communities. We can encourage the upkeep of our urban neighborhoods while helping people own and maintain their own homes.”

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Senator Scott represents the 2nd Senate District, which includes areas of Detroit and the cities of Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park and all of the Grosse Pointes. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.